SMP, White Butter and Butter Oil which are required for recombination purposes.

Improvement of Calcutta

2391. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allocate special non-plan funds for the improvement of Calcutta, as has been done in the case of Bombay; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Urban Development is a State subject and appropriate projects are formulated and implemented by the State Governments in accordance with the needs and priorities out of their provisions. There is no proposal under consideration for allocation of special non-plan funds for Calcutta. However, a number of centrally assisted projects like construction of second Hooghly bridge, metro-railway and circular railway have already been taken up in Calcutta besides making provisions in the Ganga Action Plan and procuring substantial funds from the World Bank under the Calcutta Urban Development Projects and Calcutta Urban Transport Project.

Freight equalisation

2392. SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:
SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to reply to the Starred Question 138 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th July, 1986 and state:

(a) the names of the State Governments which have pointed out major disadvantages arising out of the phased abolition of the freight equalisation scheme for Steel;

(b) whether the views of these State Governments were not considered by the Pandey Committee, if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to implement the Marathe Committee's recommendations pertaining to the extension of the scheme to other items?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Gujarat and Punjab.

(b) There is no specific mention of this aspect in the Pande Committee Report.

(c) The Marathe Committee had not recommended extension of the scheme to any other commodity.

Central assistance to Punjab for housing

2393. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "No funds for rural poor housing in Punjab" as reported in the 'Economic Times' dated 1st Sept., 1986;

(b) if so, whether it is a act that the Central Government have not provided any funds to Punjab Government for housing during the current plan period; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Housing is a State subject and State Govts./U.T. Administrations implement various Social Housing Schemes according to their requirements and plan-priorities. The Central assistance to the State Govt./UT Admns. is given in the shape of 'block loans' and 'block grants' without being tied to any particular scheme or head of development. Even